



3 days in Darwin

Darwin
Tourism NT/Shanaa McNaught

This three day Darwin itinerary will have your clients exploring some of the city's art, culture and culinary experiences, with some waterhole swims and wildlife encounters.

DAY ONE

Breakfast with a view

The three day Darwin adventure begins with breakfast at the **Darwin Waterfront**. From high end restaurants to more casual cafes and bars, there's something for everyone. Make sure they pack their bathers so they can go for a swim at the Wave or Recreation Lagoons. Paddle, swim or play in these manmade lagoons with waves up to 1.7 metres generated at regular intervals. Both areas are safe for swimming and protected from stingers.

Go face-to-face with a croc

After lunch, head to **Crococaurus Cove**, located in the heart of Darwin on Mitchell Street. Visitors have the opportunity to get up close and personal with the largest reptile on the planet, the saltwater crocodile, and learn about a variety of fish and reptile species at the aquarium and reptile house during the many daily shows. Those who are particularly brave can climb into the Cage of Death for a face-to-face encounter with one of the largest saltwater crocodiles in captivity. It's

the ultimate adrenaline rushing and protected from stingers.

Sunset and shopping at Mindil Market

Darwin's popular **Mindil Beach Sunset Markets** are held every Thursday and Sunday evening between May and October. The region's incredible multicultural mix is well represented at the market's arts, crafts and food stalls. There's free entertainment by magicians and buskers, and over 60 international food stalls to choose from, before dining barefoot on the beach watching an iconic Darwin sunset.

If the Mindil Beach Sunset Markets aren't scheduled for tonight, head to Cullen Bay Marina for takeaway fish and chips or dine at one of the beachside sailing clubs and watch the sun go down.

city. Take time to browse the local shops and boutiques for some unique souvenirs.

Aboriginal art scene

Today, discover the wealth of the local **Aboriginal art scene**. Darwin City and Parap are great places to view and invest in Aboriginal art pieces from around the Northern Territory. **The Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory** is also recommended to find out more about Aboriginal art and to see local crocodile celebrity, Sweetheart. The famous 5-metre, 780-kilogram taxidermied saltwater crocodile is on permanent display in the museum. The museum also houses a Cyclone Tracy exhibition where you can appreciate the scale of devastation the city suffered on 24 December 1974.

Wartime history experiences

The Defence of Darwin Experience at the Military Museum is a great place to discover Darwin's wartime history. Learn about the bombing of Darwin and the city's role in WWII through the gallery and multimedia presentations. Check out the displays of artillery pieces, vehicles, uniforms and firearms

DAY TWO

City explorer

Start the day with a morning coffee fix and breakfast one of the many popular cafes in the

Different in every sense





Mindil Beach Sunset Markets
Tourism NT/Charlie Bliss



Crocosaurus Cove, Darwin City
Tourism NT/Shana McNaught



Aboriginal art tour at Tiwi Islands
Tourism Australia/James Fisher

at the museum, or head to Stokes Hill Wharf and the **Bombing of Darwin Harbour exhibit at the RFDS Tourist Facility**. The VR movie and life-sized holograms bring the dramatic events to life.

Historical harbour views

Head towards the Esplanade where you'll find **Bicentennial Park** perched on the cliffs of Darwin Harbour. Visit the Cenotaph, Darwin's first war memorial commemorating Australians who lost their lives in WWI, and the Aboriginal men and women whose bush skills assisted the Army during WWII to protect the remote northern coastline.

Settle in for a movie under the stars

Unwind tonight with a flick at the **Deckchair Cinema**, which can be found near the Waterfront. The open air cinema screens Australian, popular, family, Foreign and classic films during the dry season (April-November). Make the most of the experience and relax under the stars while enjoying their onsite bar and food stalls.

DAY THREE

Back to nature

Grab some more R&R at **Berry Springs Nature Park** (usually open May-November), located just 47 kilometres south of Darwin. Used as a recreation camp for armed forces personnel during the war, today it's a popular spot for a barbecue and a dip in the clear freshwater pools. Native fish and other aquatic life can be easily viewed through a pair of goggles.

Get active this afternoon and check out one of the bushwalking tracks or learn more about the wartime history of Berry Springs Nature Park at the interpretive centre.

Spectacular Jumping Crocodile

Just an hour's drive south of Darwin, see the NT's elusive, powerful crocodiles leap spectacularly into the air! Based on the Adelaide River, **Spectacular Jumping Crocodile Cruise's** operate four cruises daily.

Dinner with a view of the harbour

Return to Darwin and head to Stokes Hill Wharf to depart on a **sunset cruise**. What a perfect way to end your stay in Darwin than with a tranquil cruise on the water as the sun sets and stars come out on a balmy Territory evening.

For longer stays there are multiple sailing tours available that last from a few hours to adventurous overnight and multi-day trips. Fishing trips are also popular and a great chance to reel in barramundi and gold band snapper.

ADDITIONAL DAY

Tiwi Islands

Make time for a day trip across the water to the 'Island of Smiles'. The Tiwi Aboriginal people are well known for their strong cultural connections, welcoming friendly nature and distinctive art. You can buy a special piece direct from local art centres or make your own! Day tours include either a 2.5 hour ferry ride or 20 minute light aircraft flight from Darwin.

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